

Section 8 Newsletter

MAY 2014

SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

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Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of dwellings, and in other housing related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status (including children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18), and handicap (disability). If you feel you have been discriminated against, contact HUD Hot Line at (800) 669-9777 or North County Lifeline at (866) 954-3354 x6226.

Sequestration Update

Last March, agencies all over the country were developing plans on how to continue business in light of a 5.1% reduction in federal funding due to sequestration. Through prudent planning, the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego was able to continue to assist families already participating in the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Rental Assistance Program and did not have to terminate any contracts because of a lack of funding.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, which funds the HCV program, announced slight increases in funding for 2014, which will allow us to assist a few more low-income families with rental assistance. In addition, there are several cost-saving measures currently being defined by HUD that would allow agencies to save additional money and assist more families. Among them would be a change from annual to biennial Housing Quality Standards inspections. As we evaluate these cost-saving measures, we will keep you posted on any changes, when they will be implemented and how they may affect participants in the HCV Program.

Did you know that you can access your Child Support information 24/7?

Customer Connect is California's self-service child support information system that you can access at your convenience! Through Customer Connect, you can update your account information, view payment history, review case information, and verify court dates and appointments. To do so, simply login at www.childsup-connect.ca.gov, enter your Participant ID Number or SSN and your PIN. For payment information, or to report changes select the My Payments tab. If you receive child support, please submit a payment history printout from this website along with your annual recertification packet. If you need assistance, please call (866) 901-3212.

Dangers of Electronic Cigarettes

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified a new health problem related to electronic (e) cigarettes -- the risk that the devices themselves or the liquid nicotine that goes into them will cause injury to eyes, skin or other body parts.

Calls to poison control centers to report problems related to e-cigarette exposures rose from one per month in September 2010 (when officials started to keep track of such calls) to 215 per month in February 2014, according to a report published in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. During that time, poison control centers fielded a total of 2,405 calls about e-cigarette injuries.

E-cigarettes are battery-operated devices that deliver users an inhaled dose of nicotine (or other substances) in vapor form without the carbon monoxide or tars that come from burning tobacco leaves. The CDC estimates that 10% of American high school students and nearly three percent of middle school students used e-cigarettes in 2012.

When people were injured by e-cigarettes, the most common side effects reported to poison control centers were nausea, vomiting and eye irritation. One person committed suicide by injecting the nicotine solution into his or her veins.

CDC's report noted that the nicotine liquid used in e-cigarettes comes in flavors such as fruit, mint and chocolate. That could make them especially appealing to children, but CDC's report warned that the liquid cartridges are not required to be sold in childproof containers. *Source: American Lung Association.*

**Upcoming
Resident
Advisory Board
Meeting**

October 21, 2014 at
9:30 A.M.

Location:

3989 Ruffin Road
San Diego, CA 92123

In addition to the
Resident Advisory
Board, we need
participants to serve
two-year terms on the
Housing Authority
Board of
Commissioners as a
Tenant
Commissioner.

Commissioners are
paid for each meeting
they attend.



Volunteers Needed

RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

APPLICATION

We are seeking program participants to serve on our Section 8 Rental Assistance and Public Housing programs Resident Advisory Board (RAB). The role of the Resident Advisory Board is to assist and make recommendations regarding the development of various Public Housing Authority Plans. Members of the Resident Advisory Board are required to attend at least two meetings a year.

If you are interested in serving on the Resident Advisory Board and have access to transportation, please send your completed application to Anthony McCall:

Email: anthony.mccall@sdcounty.ca.gov

Fax: (858) 514-6575

U.S. mail:

Mr. Anthony McCall
Housing Authority of the County of San Diego
3989 Ruffin Road, San Diego, CA 92123

If you have any questions, please contact your housing representative.

Print Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Housing Representative _____

In addition to the RAB, are you interested in serving on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as a Tenant Commission?

☐ Yes

☐ No

What are your principal areas of interest in serving our community? _____

What relevant experience or special knowledge do you have? _____

Signature

Date